



## **Central Falls Police Department Office of Public Information**

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### **Domestic Violence incident escalates to physical threats and armed confrontation with police officers:**

CENTRAL FALLS – On October 12, 2015 at approximately 12:00pm the Central Falls Police Department received a call from a female stating that her former boyfriend, Armando Gonzalez (28), was on his way to her Dexter Street apartment with a firearm and was going to shoot her as well as any police officer that tried to stop or arrest him.

Information was dispatched to all patrol units that a complaint had been filed against him for a violation of a previous court ordered no-contact order in addition to several outstanding warrants and the impending threat to law enforcement.

Moments later, an officer observed the suspect walking on High Street near the River Walk Park. Knowing of the threats he made towards his former girlfriend, as well as police, the suspect was ordered to show his hands and to get on the ground, which he refused to do. The suspect instead reached into his right pant pocket pulling out a large silver knife which he pointed at and motioned towards the officer with. An order was given by the officer to drop the knife while the suspect was being held at gunpoint; however, he refused and then turned the knife on himself, threatened to take his own life.

A second officer arrived on the scene with his service weapon drawn, and as a result, distracted the suspect long enough for the first officer to holster her weapon and deploy her Taser, striking the suspect in the torso, safely immobilizing him so he could be disarmed without harm

to either the suspect or the officers. The suspect was later transported to Rhode Island Hospital for a minor laceration.

He was released from the hospital this morning to the custody of Central Falls detectives where he was arraigned in 6<sup>th</sup> District Court on the charge of assault with a dangerous weapon; violation of a no-contact order; domestic disorderly conduct; possession of a weapon other than a firearm; resisting arrest; and disorderly conduct. In addition, Mr. Gonzalez also had several outstanding court warrants.

He was ordered held as a Superior Court Violator and was given \$15,000 surety bail on the new charges as well as an order to complete a mental health evaluation.

“The responding officers were not only swift to respond and decisive in their actions, they used considerable restraint in a clearly volatile and unpredictable situation, says Colonel James J. Mendonca”. “It is very fortunate that neither officer nor suspect was seriously injured”.

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